Claims

1. Endoscopic intubation system, in particular for babies or very small children, comprising:

   - an endotracheal tube having an inner diameter;

   - an endoscope, comprising:

     - a shaft having a proximal and a distal end, said shaft being substantially bend-resistant and having an outer diameter slightly smaller than said inner diameter of said tube, so that said tube can be slid onto said shaft, said shaft being at least partially curved,

   wherein said shaft comprises a continuously curved portion starting from said distal end.

2. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein a radius of curvature of said curved portion of said shaft is approximately constant.

3. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein said curved portion of said shaft extends over at least two thirds of the entire length of said shaft.

4. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein a straight portion follows said continuously curved portion, upon which an adapter is arranged for fixing said tube on said shaft.

5. The intubation system of claim 4, wherein said adapter is axially shiftable and lockable on said shaft.

6. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein a straight portion follows said continuously curved portion, upon which an adapter is arranged for fixing said tube on said shaft and wherein said adapter comprises a connector for connecting an air supply hose.

7. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein said outer diameter of said shaft is just enough smaller than said inner diameter of said tube, such that an air gap remains between said shaft and said tube.

8. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein a video camera is arranged at said proximal end of said shaft, through which an enlarged endoscopic image can be obtained.

9. The intubation system of claim 8, wherein said video camera is connected to said endoscope through a coupling and is removable therefrom.

10. The intubation system of claim 1, wherein said outer diameter of said shaft lies in a range of about 1.5 mm to 2.5 mm, preferably is about 2 mm.